

May 25

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DRAGGER HASTENS TO PORT AFTER SPRINGING ALEAK

Skipper Joseph Cecilo and his crew of the local dragger Gov. Al Smith were almost introduced to the ocean's bottom Monday night when the otter board of the trawl whacked the bottom of the vessel, and damaged the planking so much that the craft sprung aleak, and before they knew it, the water in the engine room began to reach alarming heights.

The dragger was fishing 85 miles southeast of Highland Light, and had 40,000 pounds of groundfish in the

holds. As soon as the skipper realized the vessel's predicament, Capt. Cecilo stopped fishing and made for Boston, while he stationed his men at the pumps to keep the ship afloat. For every member it was a weary 30 hours, laboring frantically to save the vessel from carrying them to the bottom, or forcing them to their dories, and once the vessel had docked at the Fish pier in Boston, all hands breathed easier. A tug stood by at the dock and with her pumps, kept the water below the foot-level in the engine room.

The dragger was towed to this port yesterday afternoon, arriving late, and was immediately hauled on Parkhurst's Marine railways where she will be repaired. She is owned by the Producers Fish Company and has been engaged in dragging all winter.

May 26

SQUIBS FROM THE WATER FRONT

BUSY SCENE ALONG WATER FRONT AS "SWORDERS" PREPARE TO GET UNDERWAY.

Then came the deluge, and with its torrential powers changed the land into the ocean, an up spaketh the secretary, from his position in the masthead chair of the Master Mariners' clubrooms that a school of refuse was scotting past the bow. Last night was one time when the ocean turned into the land, and the land turned into the ocean.

Last night you could have paddled a canoe down Main street during the height of the flood, and you would have had to be an expert to manoeuvre the rapids. The heavens were on the loose!

And at Capt. Ben Pine's wharf at the foot of Porter street, the ocean was turned into the land, when it was almost possible to walk from the end of his wharf over to that of the Seafoods on the other side of the harbor cove, because there were so many boats at the wharves. What a picture that would have made for an artist, and yet not one easel was in sight. Even the photographers were camera-shy.

Docked at the right side of Pine's wharf were swordfishermen Theresa and Dan, John A. Cooney, Louis A. Thebaud (sister ship of the famous racing ambassador), Shirley M. Clattemberg and Huntington Sanford, and the haddock Arthur D. Story. On the left are the swordfisherman Mary D'Eon and haddock Gertrude L. Thebaud, all painted and rarin' to go, the L. A. Dunton, lonely and well-nigh deserted schooner awaiting a purchaser, and the Frank W. Wilkisson, which has been inactive for some time. And at the head of the wharf were the swordfishermen Cape Ann, Restless, Mary M., and America.

Just to keep them company, came the mackerel seiners Eleanor and Florence K., last night, giving Capt. Ben first honors for the day in having the most visitors at his dock. But in the days before grandpop encouraged the chin whiskers, they do say as how one could walk right straight across the harbor from vessel to vessel without once getting one's feet wet, one could.

The entire waterfront presented an industrious picture yesterday when fishermen and carpenters and riggers were seen clambering over the swordfishermen, getting the vessels to rights for the dash to Georges next week. Some were hammering on the masthead rigging, arranging the throne of the mast-headsman, the man who sits on top of the world, or rather the mast, while below him several others act as assistants.

Other chaps were cleaning dories, four or five of which go to each ship, for the purpose of collecting the swordfish which are downed by the lily-iron. Joining the fleet from this port are the Josephine and Margaret, Capt. Bert Perry, the Cape Ann, Capt. Mike Clark and the Irene and Mabel with skipper William Tobey. That makes a total of 42 swordfishermen out of Gloucester. Quite a lotus and her errand here was first to bring a compressor to the Thacher's island station, and then to replace the ancient spar buoys in the outer harbor with special cans and nuns, the latter being red, cone-shaped affairs. Power boats which the tender carries will do the labor in Annisquam river and Essex river. Those spar buoys upon which the seagulls always perch, measure all of 30 feet long, and even with their cement mooring, weight very much less than the modern and more durable type. For instance, the skipper told Squibs that the whistling buoy off Cape Ann weighs 16 tons.

About that net slashing, that seems to be in vogue out where the cod and haddock roam. Now it's the small trawlers who send in their complaint that the netters are also using the knives, and who started the rumpus is beyond any of them, but the whole story is that the war is on, and the demon take the hindmost. The gill netters, however, never blamed the local trawlers, but felt that visitors from other ports were committing the act. At any rate, most of the gill netters are "tenting tonight on the old camp ground," just waiting for someone to try the stunt! Neither trawlers or gill netters can afford to have their gear cut ruthlessly.

Skipper Patrick Murphy's mackerel netter Funchal stocked \$1200 on their southern trip, and the crew shared \$31.78 each.

SQUIBS.

RECEIPTS SLUMP TO 57,000 POUNDS

TRAWLERS AND GILL NETTERS HAD AVERAGE FARES—MORE SEINERS HOME.

Arrivals of fresh fish here since yesterday took a decided slump when only 57,300 pounds of cod were landed by 17 trawlers and 13 gill netters, the latter accounting for 29,700 pounds. More seiners returned to port for the meeting of captains and owners tomorrow afternoon.

Gloucester Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail: Sally Joseph, trawling, 1200 lbs. cod.

Cora Jane, trawling, 1200 lbs. cod. Lady of the Rosary, trawling, 2000 lbs. cod.

Mary Ellen, trawling, 2500 lbs. cod. Liberty C., trawling, 2700 lbs. cod. Jones Brothers, trawling, 400 lbs. cod.

Plymouth Rock, trawling, 3000 lbs. cod.

Emily, trawling, 1800 lbs. cod. Florence and John, trawling, 1300 lbs. cod.

Three Brothers, trawling, 1300 lbs. cod.

Maw, trawling, 1000 lbs. cod. C2052, trawling, 800 lbs. cod.

Ripple, trawling, 1000 lbs. cod. C7225, trawling, 1000 lbs. cod.

Mayflower, trawling, 3000 lbs. cod. Naomi Bruce III., via Boston.

Florence K., via Boston. Eleanor, via Boston.

Babe Sears, via Boston. Superior, via Boston.

Three Sisters, via Boston. Alden, via Boston.

Salvatore and Rosalie, via Boston. U. S. Lighthouse Tender Lotus, via Boston.

Blanche, trawling, 1600 lbs. cod. Helen, trawling, 1800 lbs. cod.

Yesterday's Gill Net Receipts.

Virginia and Joan, 7000 lbs. cod. Mary A., 3200 lbs. cod.

Enterprise, 2300 lbs. cod. Phyllis A., 2300 lbs. cod.

Agnes and Myrnie, 2000 lbs. cod. Nashawena, 2000 lbs. cod.

Liboria C., 2000 lbs. cod. C. A. Meister, 2000 lbs. cod.

Naomi Bruce II., 1600 lbs. cod. Edna Fae, 1500 lbs. cod.

Eliza C. Riggs, 1500 lbs. cod. Margaret, 1300 lbs. cod.

15 lbs. 15c
2 lbs. 15c
21c can
21c pkg
4 for 25c
cans
er Farm
contents, 2 bottles 25c
contents only.
it and be convinced,
for
lb. Jar Prepared Mustard
29c

MACKEREL PRICE HIGHER TODAY

UP A HALF CENT A POUND—RECEIPTS ARE VERY LIGHT.

The vessels were on hand at the Boston fish pier this morning. Four of them were seiners with small fares and the mackerel situation appears to be straightened out for the time being. The price went up this morning to 2 1-2 cents. Total receipts of mackerel this morning were only 70,000 pounds.

The other six in the arriving fleet brought in 230,000 pounds of groundfish, 52,000 pounds of mixed fish. Prices held at about the same levels as yesterday.

The St. John steamer had a shipment of 69 barrels of shad and a shipment of 837 crates of lobsters.

Boston Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail: Str. Newton, 75,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 14,000 mixed fish.

Str. Harvard, 100,000 haddock, 3600 cod, 11,000 mixed fish.

Maris Stella, 25,000 haddock, 6000 cod, 12,000 mixed fish.

Frances J. Manta, 17,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1500 mixed fish.

Eddie and Lulu M., 6500 mixed fish.

Jackson and Arthur, 6500 mixed fish.

Salvatore, 18,000 mackerel. Alice and Mildred, 20,000 mackerel.

Newcastle, 7000 mackerel. Mary W., 25,000 mackerel.

Haddock, \$2.50 to \$3 per cwt.; large cod, \$1.50 to \$2; market cod, \$2; hake, \$1; pollock, 75 cents; gray sole, 1 1-2 cents to 2 cents per lb; lemon sole, 3 cents; black backs, 1 cent; yellow tails, 2 cents; mackerel, 2 1-2 cents; catfish, 1 cent.

Nova Scotia Bait Report.

Canso—No bait. Ice available. No vessels in port.

Halifax—Twenty thousand pounds frozen herring available.

Liverpool—Plenty ice available. Salt for local use only.

Lockport—Limited quantity of bait.

Lunenburg—No bait. Plenty of ice available. Schooners Jean and Shifley, and Robert J. Knickle arrived in port.

North Sydney—Fresh herring getting scarce. Three schooners baited this morning. Five more waiting. No more bait available at present.

Good catches of fish are being made at Shelburne at present. Several boats last week landed 3000 pounds, stocking \$25 per man, the result of one day's fishing. Not only has the Shelburne Fisheries Limited a good-sized staff employed but the Lunenburg Sea Products Limited are buying on their vessel Mahaska which is stationed in the harbor. As the price is low it is fortunate for the fishermen that fish are plenty. Dogfish are now reported and will probably seriously interfere with operations for some time.

Portland Fish News

The gill-netter Anna C. was the only vessel to land fish at Portland, Thursday, taking out a 3000 pound groundfish fare at the Cooperative Fish Company's plant on Commercial wharf.

Sch. Shannon, Capt. Bill Thomas, returned to Portland Thursday after six weeks of mackerel dragging which left the vessel \$85 "in the hole," according to her veteran skipper, Capt. Thomas said that the weather, scarcity of fish and poor price made the season the worst he ever had known.

Leo F. O'Brien, formerly shipping commissioner at Portland and since last summer commissioner at Boston, was a visitor on the Portland waterfront, Thursday.